Drinking Driver Education

December 2011

Upcoming Events

OWI Advisory Board

• February 2, 2012

Instructor Training

- March 6 8, 2012 Dubuque
- November 6 8, 2012
 Ames

Instructor Recertification

• March 9, 2012 Dubuque

> Register online at www.primeforlife.org.or call 800.922.9489

QUARTERLY FEES & CLASS LISTS

Quarterly fees and class lists for the period October 1 – December 31are due by January 31, 2012.

Please make sure to send your class list electronically to: OWIIowa@iowa.gov

Translator Services

From time to time, agencies may have had an individual register for the drinking driver class that does not speak and/or understand English. When this occurs, a translator is needed. This fall, the question of who is responsible for covering the cost of a translator – the student or the agency providing the course was raised. Please note this issue is specific to individuals that speak/understand a language other than English, not anyone with a disability relating to hearing or seeing. (continued on page 2)

To Test or Not To Test

The Prime for Life curriculum has both a pre and post test. According to



Michelle Ellison with Prime for Life, although instructors are encouraged to use the pre-test to gauge where the students are at the beginning of the course, the use of the post-test is optional and may or may not be used at the discretion of the instructor.

Under Age Students

Although you are suppose to be 21 to drink in Iowa, the reality is that there are those under the age of 21 who drink – and are caught driving.

Age of Driver	2009	2010
<18	303	258
18 and >	16,823	15,768

lowa law 321J.22 2(b) stipulates that "any person under the age of eighteen who is required to attend the course" for drinking and driving "must attend a course offered by a substance abuse treatment agency licensed under chapter 125".

What this means, is that students under the age of 18 at the time they take the class, should be directed to take the course from a licensed substance abuse treatment program that has been approved to provide the drinking driver program. If the student was under the age of 18 at the time they offended, but takes the class after they have turned 18, they are not restricted on where they can take the class.

If this restriction poses a problem for the student (i.e. the class is not offered in a timely manner, or in a reasonable proximity to their home), they should be directed to contact the lowa Department of Public Health for assistance at 515.281.4643.

WHO Ya GONNA CALL?

When you have a question or concern, half the battle is figuring out who to call. To help you out, we have tried to develop a little cheat sheet for you to use:

Prime for Life curriculum questions/concerns
Michelle Ellison
877.922.9045

To order Prime for Life workbooks 800.922.9489

To register for the PRI Instructor Training/ Recertification 859.223.5320 or www.primeforlife.org

Questions or concerns related to Substance Abuse Evaluations or Treatment Elizabeth Schaller 515,281,4643

Problems with the IDOT website for entering completion information (including password help) 515.237.3075

Ouestions or concerns

related to quarterly fees, website information, or other questions about the educational component of the Drinking Driver Program Janine Johnson 515.281.5251 or Barbara Ledvina 515.242.5036

Are Offenders Getting Educated?

The question was raised recently – are OWI offenders following through and getting the state mandated education? Do economic conditions influence whether or not offenders complete the requirements to get their driving privileges reinstated?

While we can't be completely sure of the answers to these questions, it would appear as though they are. Looking at statistics from 2009, we can see that 91% completed their education, and in 2010 94% completed their education. Now are all of these listed as offenders in 2010 completing their education in 2010? Probably not, since 3rd offense offenders lose their license for 6 years, and are not as likely to complete the education until closer to the time they can get

Offenses by Degree & Year			
	2009	2010	
1 st offense	11,977	11,268	
2 nd offense	3,575	3,282	
3 rd offense	1,271	1,218	
Total	16,823	15,768	

Education by Year 2009 2010 Comm. College 9,643 8,868 Private Provider 5,226 5,917 Dept. Education 442 430 Corrections 56 15,299 Total

their license back. However, it would seem that the completion rate is very high. Many may be caught in a Catch 22 – on one hand they need their license to drive to work, and on the other hand, need the job to be able to pay for the class and fines.

Quarterly Fee

When submitting your quarterly payment to the Department of Education, please submit your payment with the Quarterly Fees Report found on the DE website, and mail the form to the address listed on the form. We have had a number of payments that have been sent to the wrong address – resulting in a delay in getting the funds posted. Your help in directing it to the correct address is appreciated.

Agency Update

Have you had changes in personnel at your agency? Do you have a new website address, or change in what educational offerings you have? If so, please make sure to let us know, so that we can update our records. Changes can be emailed to:

OWIlowa@iowa.gov

Translator (continued)

We have asked the Iowa Attorney General's office about this. We were told that the AG's Office consulted with prosecutors, corrections, and transportation representatives, and the consensus was that the cost of translation should be the responsibility of the student.

One resource that law enforcement agencies in lowa use to get a quote on the cost of hiring a translator is the <u>Language Line</u>. It is also acceptable to collect this money up front with the class tuition.

By the Numbers

Statistics from July 1 – September 30, 2011

46agencies with classes held during the time period

33 average age of student

879 females taking class

2,568 males taking class

5%.....students from outside lowa

16 age of youngest student

82age of oldest student

461students under 21

5 who didn't complete the class after starting

224cleared by the DE for students taking the class out-side of lowa

What type of statistics would you be interested in seeing in the future? Let us know.

"The secret to getting ahead is getting started."

Sally Berger

Keep Certification Up-to-Date

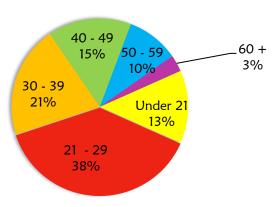
Individuals teaching Iowa's mandated drinking driver program, Prime for Life, are required to be certified to do so. Once certified, the instructor must attend a one-day recertification class every 24 months to maintain active certification. There is no charge for instructors from state approved providers to attend the recertification course. If you are unsure of when you were last certified/recertified, please contact Prime For Life at 800.922.9489, or access your information on www.primeforlife.org. **

Class Lists Provide Statewide Data

Beginning with classes held in April of 2011, agencies were asked to provide the Department of Education with a listing of all students that took the mandated drinking driver course at their agency. Although it took awhile to get everyone's information submitted, we now have all of the information compiled. We will be including statistical information regarding the individuals that comprise the students taking the drinking driver course in lowa.

From July 1 – September 30, 2011 3,447 took the class. Check out the side panel for more statistics. This compares with 3,526 who took the class from April 1 – June 30, 2011.

Age of Students



Where Students are Taking Classes

